



Our Mission

The legislature declares that, in order to safeguard the public health, safety, and welfare of the people of this state against unauthorized, unqualified and improper practice of social work, it is necessary that a proper regulatory authority be established and adequately provided for.

JANUARY 2020

News | Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners

John Shalett, LCSW-BACS
Chairperson
New Orleans, LA

Brent Villemarette,
LCSW-BACS
Vice Chairperson
Opelousas, LA

Ruth Weinzettle,
LCSW-BACS
Secretary-Treasurer
Alexandria, LA

Jennifer Burch,
LCSW-BACS
Board Member
Baton Rouge, LA

Evan J. Bergeron, ESQ
Consumer Member
New Orleans, LA

LABSWE Welcomes New Board Members:

Ada Nelson, RSW
Board Member
Gretna, LA

LaTonya Charles, LMSW
Board Member
Alexandria, LA

18550 Highland Road, Suite B | Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Phone: (225) 756.3470

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From The Chair

John S. Shalett, LCSW-BACS

Please be assured that Your Board has been very busy since the publication of the last Newsletter. Two new Board members, Ada Nelson, RSW, and LaTonya Charles, LMSW, have been appointed to the Board. Details will follow in another section of the Newsletter. Board Administrator, Emily DeAngelo, received the prestigious Glenda McDonald Award for outstanding Administrator at the Annual Delegate Assembly of the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB). Glenda McDonald was a revered Board Administrator for many years. ASWB created an award in her name and honor. The ASWB Board of Directors receives, reviews and approves nominations for this Award from its member Boards. Follows represents some of my comments while introducing Emily to the ASWB Board and Delegate Assembly in Orlando, Florida on November 9, 2019.

"She has developed an excellent rhythm and effective style of working with the board and staff to ensure the highest level of performance and with her skills to impart her knowledge."

"She has a long history with the board... provides direction and input in education both to the public and profession on legal regulation."

Her staff provided the following adjectives to describe her. "Ambitious, dedicated, reliable, conscientious. She motivates us, takes on tough decisions, supports her colleagues, has a pure heart, public protection is her #1 goal."

I encourage each of you to reach out to Emily and offer a sincere congratulation. She is a true Ambassador for each of us and the Social Work Profession.

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BOARD MEMBERS

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LABSWE Welcomes New Board Member *Ada R. Nelson* *MSW, RSW, CCDP-D, LAC*

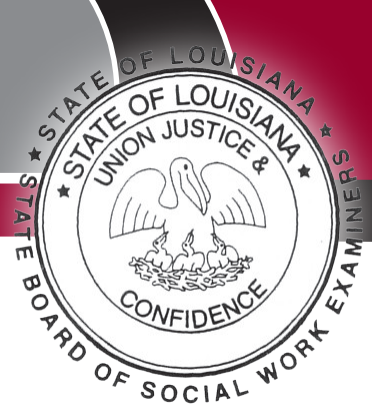
I was born and raised in St. Francisville, Louisiana and I am the third of seven children. It was during my high years at Rosenwald High in New Roads, Louisiana that I discovered I had a great love for people and a genuine curiosity about them. I chose to attend Dillard University for a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology, then Southern University in New Orleans for a Bachelor of Science in Substance Abuse, then I attended the University of New Orleans and their Masters of Health Care Program for one year, and finally, Southern University of New Orleans for a Masters in Social Work. I have a handsome, supportive son, Orenta Jarreau, and two handsome and loving grandsons, Jordan Jarreau and Shane Jarreau.

Throughout my extensive 40 plus years career, I have served in numerous and diverse clinical positions utilizing my skills, education and professional experience in social work, behavioral health, substance abuse and corrections. I have gained valuable administrative, clinical and community oriented perspectives and experience, and have been credited with advancing many innovative and actionable solutions and strategies, and I am driven by a love and compassion for the people I serve and hope that I have contributed to their physical, emotional and psychological healing and recovery processes. I believe through my professional recommendations that I have enhanced and strengthened the clinical culture and professional environments of the organizations for which I have worked. I have often served as a component of several interdisciplinary teams responsible for designing pathways to improve social, mental health, and substance

abuse services. I have supervised residential treatment programs, intensive outpatient programs, group therapy, and court mandated treatment programs. I have gained valuable insight, knowledge, and skills regarding numerous disorders including anxiety, depression, suicide, chemical dependency, addiction, eating disorders, mood disorders, panic disorders, antisocial personality disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, schizophrenia and obsessive compulsive disorder. I have learned that through diligence and commitment to the development of individualized and specific healing paths for each of my clients, optimizes their hope for recovery, stability, and reconnection with the family unit.

Through supervisory leadership and focusing on personalized client recovery and restoration, facilitated through appropriate clinical protocols administered by competent, compassionate, balanced and fully engaged team members, social workers can and do make important contributions to society and their communities by working to improve the lives of individuals, families and groups. We offer direct-care and clinical services, helping people cope with everyday problems, and providing diagnosis and treatment of mental health issues. It is my personal belief that with respect, caring, commitment to and value for each individual client, life's challenges can be overcome and healing and restoration possible. This has been my lifelong body of work and my life's mission.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS



LABSWE Welcomes New Board Member *LaTonya Charles*

LaTonya Charles has over 17 years of experience working with children and juveniles in the community. She brings a wealth of academic, practical, and clinical expertise from the fields of education, criminology and criminal justice, psychology and social work.

Ms. Charles is the owner and operator of a mental health clinic in Alexandria, Louisiana and she works as a Mental Health Professional at a therapeutic youth center in Central Louisiana. She and her late husband, Rodney Charles, MD, together have 5 children.

Born and Raised in Wilson, North Carolina, Ms. Charles has traveled the world and encourages everyone to visit new places to learn more about the world in which we live.

Ms. Charles graduated from the University of Maryland College Park with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice, a Master's Degree in Social Work from Smith College School of Social Work, certificate in Executive Non Profit Management from Georgetown University and she is currently completing an MBA from Louisiana State University in Shreveport.

She is an enthusiastic person that loves leading her Girl Scout troop, volunteering at her children's school and in the community. She serves as a board member on several community organizations such as The Arts Council of Central Louisiana, The Family Justice Center, Sankofa Cultural Collective, and she is the past President of the Louisiana Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. Ms. Charles was also elected to serve as Chairwoman for the 2016-2017 Council of Chapter Presidents for NASW. Ms. Charles volunteers at the local prisons and schools teaching and training in the areas of mental health, bullying, sexual assault, safe dating, and parenting skills.

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From The Chair

At the September meeting, the Board recognized Carla Moore, LMSW, for her outstanding and long service as a Board Member. During her tenure, Carla provided continuous and outstanding leadership not only for the Board, but also for her critical and meaningful role as a member and Chair of the ASWB Nominating Committee. Carla was also recognized at the recent ASWB Delegate Assembly in Orlando, FL. The Board wishes Carla well in her future endeavors.

At its September Strategic Planning Meeting, the Board unanimously voted to; **begin using private disciplinary actions for first time offenders of minor offenses not involving clients and to remove disciplinary action for the above with the exception of violations involving clients.** There was much discussion focusing on this decision. There were a number of requests from current license holders regarding this issue, thus prompting the discussion at both the September Board Meeting and the above Strategic Planning Meeting.

Finally, the Interorganizational Committee (IOC), co-chaired by Carmen Weisner and Rebecca Chaisson has completed its review of the many comments from the recent across the state Town Hall Meetings. The Committee will be reaching out to a current legislator to serve as a sponsor for our recommended changes to the Administrative Statutes. Kudo's to the IOC for its dedicated and tireless efforts to debate and study the many concerns and suggestions by our members. Thanks to Emily DeAngelo for her support to the IOC in its work in reviewing the Administrative Statutes.

As always, it is an honor and privilege to serve as the Chair of the LABSWE.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

Hearing Notices

The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners will hold a hearing to receive public comment from any interested person regarding any rule of the agency which the person believes is contrary to law, outdated, unnecessary, overly complex, or burdensome at the Board office on February 21, 2020 at 3:00 pm. The agency will consider fully all written and oral comments. Comments must be received in writing in order to be submitted to the legislative oversight committees. The hearing site located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809 is accessible to people using wheelchairs or other mobility aids. If other reasonable accommodations are required in order to participate in the hearing, please contact Emily DeAngelo at (225) 756-3470 at least five business days prior to the scheduled hearing. Written comments may be submitted to Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809 or edeangelo@labswe.org. Comments must be postmarked no later than Friday, February 14, 2020.

The Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners intends to amend the *Rules, Standards and Procedures* under the authority granted by La R.S. 37:2705.C.1. These amendments will apply to all Licensed Master's Social Workers under supervision for licensing and Licensed Clinical Social Workers-Board Approved Clinical Supervisors providing such supervision and amend §503. LMSWs Seeking the LCSW Credential.

All interested persons may submit written comments through April 2, 2020, to Emily DeAngelo, Administrator, Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, 18550 Highland Road, Suite

B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. A public hearing on the proposed rule will be held on April 3, 2020, at the office of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners, 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809 beginning at 3:00 p.m. All interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments, orally or in writing, at said hearing. Individuals with disabilities who require special services should contact Emily DeAngelo at least five business days in advance of the hearing at (225)756-3470.

The following is how the proposed rule reads:

§503. LMSWs Seeking the LCSW Credential

A. Supervision for the LCSW license can begin after the MSW obtains LMSW. Supervision shall be documented on the forms provided by the Board.

B. Supervision for the LCSW license is conducted by a Board-approved clinical supervisor (BACS). LMSWs may obtain a list of BACS from the Board's website or office.

C. The Supervision Contract shall be completed by the supervisor, the supervisee, and the agency supervisor and shall be submitted to the Board office by the supervisee within 60 days of the first supervision session. The Employment Verification shall be completed by the employer and shall be submitted by the supervisee along with the Supervision Contract. Failure to do so shall result in supervision being issued from the date that is 60 days from the date received. A new Supervision Contract shall be submitted by the supervisee within 60 days of the change when the supervisee changes

employment, changes supervisor and/or there is a change in the agency supervisor. If there is a change in employment, the supervisee must also submit a new Employment Verification. The Board office will email the supervisee and supervisor a notice confirming receipt of the Supervision Contract and the beginning date of supervision, within 60 days of receipt of the Contract.

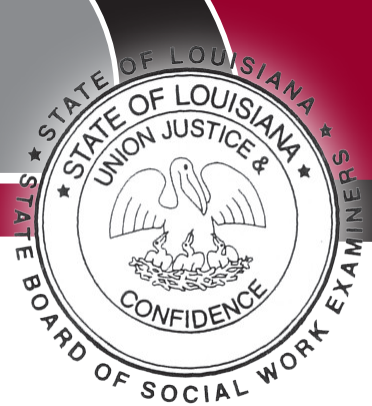
D. LMSWs seeking the LCSW credential must complete a minimum of 5,760 hours of postgraduate social work practice and at least 3,840 hours of that postgraduate social work practice must be under the supervision of a Board-approved clinical supervisor (BACS).

E. During the 3,840 hours of supervised practice, 96 hours of face-to-face supervision must occur between the supervisor and supervisee. Supervisory meetings must last no fewer than 30 minutes and no longer than 2 hours. In no case should more than 80 hours of practice occur without a supervisory meeting. Supervision credit shall not be issued for the time period that this requirement is not met.

F. One-half (48 hours maximum) of the supervision requirement may be met through group supervision, occurring in increments of no more than two hours per group. No more than five supervisees may participate in a supervision group. In some cases, it may be beneficial to increase the number of group supervision hours. To obtain approval for up to 72 hours of group supervision, the supervisor must submit a written request to the Board indicating the rationale for the increase. The Board shall consider the request at a regularly scheduled Board meeting and notify the supervisor of its decision within 30 business days.

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LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS



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Hearing Notices

G. School social workers shall count hours of postgraduate social work practice and supervision that occurs when they are employed in a social work position.

H. Occasionally, a need may arise for supervision to occur using electronic communication rather than on a face-to-face basis. The Board may consider alternatives to face-to-face supervision if the applicant can demonstrate an undue burden due to hardship, disability or travel time. All situations of remoted supervision must be approved by the Board. To receive approval, the supervisee should submit a written request containing specific details to the Board. The Board shall consider the request at a regularly scheduled Board meeting and notify the supervisor of its decision within 30 business days. If approved, the supervisor and supervisee agree to use secure technology that provided real-time, visual contact among the individuals involved, and adheres to the confidential nature of the supervisory process.

I. The supervisee and supervisor shall keep accurate records of both the dates of supervision sessions and the time spent in supervision, as well as brief information on the content of the supervisory session. Both the supervisor and supervisee will sign for each supervisory session. This information shall be provided on the form entitled Record of Supervision and should be maintained by the supervisee. Upon completion of supervision, this form shall be submitted to the Board office. The Board may also choose to randomly audit the Record of Supervision form to verify that supervision occurred in accordance with §503. If irregularities

are found, supervision credit shall be reduced to reflect actual supervised time. J. The supervisor shall also keep a supervision folder and it shall include the following:

1. Copy of the Supervision Contract;
2. Narrative of all supervisory sessions, including overview of cases discussed, significant decisions made; any ethical concerns; significant problems arising in supervision, and how they were resolved;
3. Copies of memos and correspondence;
4. Copy of Evaluation of Supervision form;
5. Copies of the Record of Supervision.

K. The supervisor has a professional responsibility to honor his/her commitment to supervise responsibly, which includes covering content as indicated in the Supervision Contract, maintaining accurate records, making themselves available to the supervisee for required sessions and other consultations, and submitting forms on a timely basis. Should the supervisor fail to submit forms appropriately, and on a timely basis, the Board reserves the right to withdraw the BACS designation from the supervisor.

L. The supervisee shall provide to the Board office the following documents at the end of the supervisory period:

1. Evaluation of Supervision
2. Record of Supervision

The Board office does not confirm receipt of these forms. These forms will be reviewed once an application for LCSW is filed by the LMSW.

M.. An Evaluation of Supervision form shall be submitted to the Board office at the completion of that supervisor's supervisory period. Sometimes it is necessary for a supervisor to discontinue supervising a LMSW for licensure. When this occurs, no matter what length of time the supervisor actually supervised the supervisee, the supervisor must submit an Evaluation of Supervision form.

N. The Professional Experience Verification Record shall be submitted by the Supervisee to the Board office from each place of employment to verify dates employed and the hours of social work practice completed during the time employed. The Professional Experience Verification Record shall be completed by the employer(s).

O. If the LMSW receives supervision outside of the state of Louisiana, that supervision will be accepted if:

1. the supervisor has completed the authorized forms of the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners; and
2. the supervisor is licensed at the time of supervision at a level substantially equivalent to a LCSW-BACS in the other state and submits the license verification of out of state supervisor form (available from board office).

P. The board's publication, Supervision for Professional Development and Public Protection: A Guide, provides more information relative to supervision.

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

Board Vacancies



There are two Licensed Clinical Social Work positions on the Louisiana State Board of Social Work Examiners expiring this year. One on May 1, 2020 and the other on August 28, 2020.

La. R.S. 37:2704 mandates the following qualifications for board members:

- Citizen of the United States
- Resident of the State of Louisiana
- Hold a current and valid social work credential
- Must have five (5) years of social work experience

If you are interested in serving on the Board, you should submit a letter stating your interest, along with a current resume to:

Louisiana Chapter of National Association of Social Workers
700 North 10th Street, Suite 200 • Baton Rouge, LA 70802
astehr.naswla@socialworkers.org • Fax (225) 346-5035

The deadline for submission for the position expiring on May 1st is close of business on February 29, 2020, and the deadline for submission for the position expiring on August 28th is close of business on June 19, 2020.

FAQs about serving on the Board:

What is the time commitment for serving?

An appointment to the Board is made by the governor for three consecutive years. Meetings are held approximately every 5 weeks on a Friday at the board office in Baton Rouge. Meetings begin at 8:30 a.m. and carry-over to Saturday, if necessary. Other examples of board activities include, presenting at the NASW-LA Annual Conference and serving on committees.

Are board members paid?

Board members are reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred on board business. For example, mileage driven to and from a meeting is reimbursed at the state rate, which is currently .575 per mile. We also reserve a hotel room for board members that are required to travel a significant distance to meetings. We provide breakfast and lunch at the meeting. If you need to stay overnight, dinner can be reimbursed up to the amount allowed by the state's travel guidelines.

If you have any questions concerning the board's activities or the time commitment required of board members, please email the Board's Administrator, Emily DeAngelo at edeangelo@labswe.org.

Scheduled Events.....



Board meetings for 2020 are scheduled on January 17, February 21, April 3, May 8, June 12, July 17, August 21, October 2, November 6, and December 11.

Meetings are held at the board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. The meetings begin at 8:30 a.m. and carry-over to Saturday to complete the agenda, if necessary. Meeting agendas are posted on the board's website, www.labswe.org, 24 hours prior to the meeting. LABSWE falls under the Louisiana Open Meetings Act. This law specifies that every meeting shall be open to the public, unless the subject of the meeting relates to the character and professional competence of a person, or to the investigation of a complaint or negotiation of litigation. Any member of the public who wishes to address the board should submit a request in writing at least 24 hours before a public meeting to be included on the agenda. All votes are public, as are all minutes of the meeting.

Continuing education hours are issued to social workers attending the meeting who indicate on the sign-in sheet he/she is attending for the purpose of obtaining continuing education. Credit is issued based on the time spent in open session.

Public Hearings relative to rules are scheduled on February 21 and April 3. See article specific to these.

Legislation Review Committee meetings will be held on April 2 and May 7 at the board office. Meetings will begin at 5:00 p.m. and are open to the public.

Board Orientation Workshops are scheduled for March 13, May 15, July 10, September 11 and November 13.

This orientation is required to apply for Board-approved Clinical Supervisor (BACS). LCSW-BACS can attend the orientation as a refresher and receive two hours of continuing education. The orientation DOES NOT qualify towards the renewal of the BACS designation. The orientation workshops are held at the board office located at 18550 Highland Road, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. To register, complete the registration form and submit to the board office, along with \$15.00 non-refundable registration fee. Payment can be made via money order, cashier's check or credit/debit card. Space is limited to 16 registrants. Go to <https://www.labswe.org/page/supervision> and click on Board Orientation Workshop Registration.