

Indiana State Board of Psychology

July 2011 Edition



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2011 Meeting Dates/locations:

- ❖ July 15th (Conference Center Room 2)
- ❖ September 16th (W064)
- ❖ November 18th (Conference Center Room 4)

All meetings are held at the Indiana Government Center South, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204 in the room indicated.

Member Profile:

In this section of the newsletter we will introduce you to your board one by one.

Sharon L. Bowman, Ph.D., HSPP, LMHC, has been a member of the ISPB since 2000. She is a professor and chair of the Department of Counseling Psychology and Guidance Services at Ball State University. Dr. Bowman has been at Ball State for 22 years. She also has a private practice in Muncie, Indiana, where she works with adults and couples. She received her BA from The Ohio State University, her master's in counseling psychology from the University of Akron, and her doctorate in counseling psychology from Southern Illinois University – Carbondale. Her internship was completed in the counseling center at the University of Delaware. Dr. Bowman's research interests are in diversity, especially focused on race and ethnicity, women's issues, and GLBT issues. She teaches graduate courses in supervision, practicum, diversity, and clinical mental health counseling. Dr. Bowman is an American Red Cross Disaster Mental Health volunteer, and is Indiana's liaison to the APA Disaster Response Network. She is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association (via Division 17, Society of Counseling Psychology).

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Helpful Links:

Indiana Psychological Association:

www.indianapsychology.org

ASPPB: www.asppb.org

National Register:

www.nationalregister.org

Notes from the Director,

Welcome to what is the first in an ongoing series of quarterly newsletters. The purpose of these newsletters is to keep you abreast with what is going on in your profession as well as with the Indiana State Psychology Board. Because we value your input we welcome you to email us at pla6@pla.in.gov to ask questions or voice concerns; indicate in the subject line "Newsletter: Psych" and you may see your questions, comments, and concerns addressed in a future publication.

Tasha Coleman

What's Happening in your Profession?

- Effective **July 1, 2011** IPLA will require criminal background checks of all new licensees. In addition, at the discretion of the board, a criminal background check may be required for a licensee currently on probation who wishes to terminate his or her probationary status and for a current license holder processing a renewal.
- The next renewal for psychologists is **August 31, 2012**.
- The State Psychology Board is currently auditing 7% of all HSPP endorsed psychologist. The audit covers the September 1, 2008 – August 31, 2010 licensure period.
- HSPP endorsed psychologists may retire their HSPP upon written notification to the board. Retirement of the HSPP eliminates the CE requirement. Licensed psychologists who do not hold the HSPP may only practice under the supervision of a HSPP psychologist.
- The new HSPP application is available online. To download the HSPP application, go to: <https://forms.in.gov/Download.aspx?id=4807>

Disciplinary Action:

A list of board disciplinary actions may be found on our license litigation system at

<http://www.in.gov/ai/appfiles/pla-litigation/>

Free online licensure look-ups may be obtained at <https://extranet.in.gov/WebLookup/Search.aspx>. This is a real time database and is the best resource for accurate data.

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IPA Corner:

By Kathleen Vogler, Ph.D, HSPP

Take care of yourself. How often have we given that advice to others? But do we heed our own advice? As practicing psychologists we are exposed to stressors that place us at risk for experiencing distress, burnout, vicarious traumatization, and eventual impaired professional competence (Barnett, Baker, Elman, Schoener, 2007). Psychologists are no less likely than the average person to experience physical and mental health concerns, including mental health and substance abuse disorders. Although some may presume that our education and training as psychologists insulate us, in fact we are at an even greater risk than the general population (Sherman, 1996). Self-care should be a concern of all practicing psychologists and the organizations that support them. Self-care is an ethical, as well as, a practical concern. In future columns I will look at some of the ethical and practical implications of self-care. You can contact me at Practice.IPA@gmail.com if you wish to add your voice to the conversation about self-care.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Vogler, Ph.D., Indiana Psychological Association At-Large Board Member for Practice

Barnett, J. E., Baker, E. K., Elman, N. S., & Schoener, G. R. (2007). In pursuit of wellness: The self-care imperative. *Professional Psychology, Research and Practice*, 38, 603-612.

Sherman, M. D. Distress and professional impairment due to mental health problems among psychotherapists. *Clinical Psychology Review*, 16, 299-315.

CHANGES IN COMPETENCY TO STAND EVALUATIONS AND THE ROLE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

On July 1, 2011, a new law went into effect relevant to those psychologists who conduct Competency to Stand Trial evaluations. This change in the law denotes a landmark and substantial change for psychologists for those determined to be competent to conduct these evaluations for the Courts. The following code citations constitute the change in the law. Please review the following Indiana Code citation for further guidance:

IC 35-36-3-1

Hearing; psychiatric examination; delay or continuance of trial; confinement in psychiatric institution; competency restoration services.

Sec. 1. (a) If at any time before the final submission of any criminal case to the court or the jury trying the case, the court has reasonable grounds for believing that the defendant lacks the ability to understand the proceedings and assist in the preparation of a defense, the court shall immediately fix a time for a hearing to determine whether the defendant has that ability. The court shall appoint two (2) or three (3) competent, disinterested:

- (1) psychiatrists;
- (2) psychologists endorsed by the Indiana State Board of Examiners in Psychology as Health Service Providers in Psychology; or
- (3) physicians; **who have expertise in determining competency.**

At least one (1) of the individuals appointed under this subsection must be a psychiatrist or psychologist.

However, none may be an employee or a contractor of

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a state institution (as defined in IC 12-7-2-184). The individuals who are appointed shall examine the defendant and testify at the hearing as to whether the defendant can understand the proceedings and assist in the preparation of the defendant's defense.

(b) At the hearing, other evidence relevant to whether the defendant has the ability to understand the proceedings and assist in the preparation of the defendant's defense may be introduced. If the court finds that the defendant has the ability to understand the proceedings and assist in the preparation of the defendant's defense, the trial shall proceed. If the court finds that the defendant lacks this ability, it shall delay or continue the trial and order the defendant committed to the division of mental health and addiction. This change in the law is very important as it now acknowledges that HSPPs, who possess special training in competency evaluations, are recognized by the State Courts as having specialized training in the area and who can serve as an asset to the Court. The mandate that psychiatrists be part of the evaluation process has been rescinded.

What does this mean for you? If you are an HSPP performing these

evaluations, you are now required, as of July 1, 2011, to demonstrate to the Court your competency in conducting these evaluations. This can be done by demonstrating attendance at post-doctoral symposia, specialized forensic training on internship & post-doctoral supervision, and other acceptable methods. Merely graduating with a doctoral degree does not make one competent. Go to <http://www.abfp.com/> for further information on this type of forensic competency.

This summer the Indiana Legislature will be conducting study committees on changing the requirement that psychiatrists be required as part of the insanity evaluation process. Your active involvement and support are essential to effectuating a change in the current code. Please be willing to lend a hand (testifying, serving on a study committee, etc).

Thank you for your support.

Stephen Ross, Psy.D, HSPP
Board Certified Clinical Psychologist
American Board of Professional Psychology¹

Dr. Ross has been a member of the Indiana State Board of Psychology since 2001, serving as both Chair and Vice-Chairperson. He is currently serving as the Board's liaison to the Indiana Office of the Attorney General.

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