

**Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Monday, November 11, 2019**

**FINAL APPROVED: March 6, 2020**

An Emergency Meeting of the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists (Board or LSBEP) was noticed and agenda posted at 3:45 p.m. on Monday, November 11, 2019. Board Chair, Dr. Koren Boggs, called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, November 11, 2019 at 4334 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Suite C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70816. Dr. Boggs read the mission of the board: *“It is hereby declared that the creation of a state board of examiners of psychologists is necessary in order to safeguard life, health, property, and the public welfare of this state, and in order to protect the people of this state against unauthorized, unqualified, and improper application of psychology.”*

Present and representing the Complaint Committee were Dr. Koren Boggs, Ph.D., LSBEP Chair; Dr. Sasha J. Lambert, Ph.D., Complaints Coordinator; and, Ms. Courtney Newton, Prosecuting Attorney. Present and representing the LSBEP were Board Members, Drs. Amy Henke, Psy.D.; Gregory Gormanous, Ph.D.; Gina Gibson, Ph.D.; and, Michelle Moore, Psy.D. Also present was Ms. Amy Groves Lowe, Legal Counsel for the LSBEP, and Ms. Jaime Monic, Executive Director.

Dr. Gormanous requested that his statement of service be recorded into the minutes as follows: *“My serving on LSBEP is to ensure that consumers of psychological services are protected against any unqualified, harmful and unauthorized practice, application or use of psychology. My service is as a consumer advocate and educator. My service is not as a market participant.”*

Ms. Monic reported the meeting was called for the sole purpose of considering emergency summary suspension pending investigation of the Matter P19-20-03C involving allegations of sexual misconduct with a minor. The prosecuting attorney educated the LSBEP on summary suspension and the legal burden that must be met for the LSBEP to summarily suspend the license of a psychologist. Ms. Newton also advised that in order to retain the integrity of the members of the LSBEP to serve on a future hearing panel in this matter, the matter would be referenced only by complaint number and all identifying information of the Respondent, victim, and any potential witnesses would be withheld from the members of the board.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Following Ms. Newton’s report, Dr. Gormanous moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to LA R.S.42:17.A(1), (4) and (10) and LA R.S. 44:4(29) to review the evidence and receive the recommendation of the Complaints Committee. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Henke – Yes, Gormanous – Yes, Gibson – Yes, Moore – Yes, Boggs – Abstained due to her participation as the investigating board member on the Complaint Committee recommending the summary suspension.

Dr. Gormanous moved to close Executive Session following discussion of the matter in order to consider any motions in open meeting. The motion passed by roll call vote as follows: Henke – Yes, Gormanous – Yes, Gibson – Yes, Moore – Yes, Boggs – Abstained due to her participation as the investigating board member on the Complaint Committee recommending the summary suspension.

Dr. Gormanous reported that the board received information in Executive Session related to a Request for Investigation filed on November 7, 2019 concerning allegations of sexual misconduct with a minor, in conjunction with a previous Letter of Education to the Respondent in this matter dated December 19, 2018 citing similar allegations. Finding that this information imperatively required action, Dr. Gormanous moved that an immediate emergency summary suspension be instituted in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the most vulnerable population of the public; further that the Complaints Committee be delegated the authority to draft and facilitate the service the order of a

summary suspension in accordance with the requirements of the laws and rules governing the Board and the Practice of Psychology, advising the respondent to cease and desist the practice of psychology pending completion of the investigation of this matter; and further that a formal hearing to adjudicate the matter be promptly instituted in accordance with the Laws and Rules governing the Board and the Practice of Psychology.

That motion having been put to roll call vote, passed unanimously by roll call vote as follows: Henke – Yes, Gormanous – Yes, Gibson – Yes, Moore – Yes, Boggs – Abstained due to her participation as the investigating board member on the Complaint Committee recommending the summary suspension.

Following the conclusion of the roll call vote, General Counsel explained to the LSBEP that a formal hearing to adjudicate the allegations will be promptly instituted for which all members of the LSBEP, except for Dr. Koren Boggs the investigating board member, will participate as members of the hearing panel. General Counsel advised board members to abstain from news articles, media, listserv conversations or other websites, information, or conversations that may expose them to information related to this case to preserve their ability to serve as unbiased members of the hearing panel at the formal adjudication. All LSBEP members expressed their understanding and verbally committed to take necessary action to preserve the integrity of the hearing panel.

All business being completed, Dr. Henke moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

La. R.S. 37:23.2 - In compliance with La. R.S. 37:23.2, the LSBEP hereby gives notice to its licensees and applicants of their opportunity to file a complaint about board actions and board procedures. You may submit such complaints to one or more of the following organizations: Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Psychologists: **Submit in writing to:** LSBEP, 4334 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, #C-150, Baton Rouge, LA 70816; [admin.lsbep@la.gov](mailto:admin.lsbep@la.gov); (225)925-6511; Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives: **Submit to:** [H&GA@legis.la.gov](mailto:H&GA@legis.la.gov) or Committee on House & Governmental Affairs, La. House of Representatives, PO Box 44486, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225) 342-2403; Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate: **Submit to:** [s&g@legis.la.gov](mailto:s&g@legis.la.gov) or Committee on Senate & Governmental Affairs; La Senate PO Box 94183, Baton Rouge, LA 70804; (225)342-9845

LA R.S. 42.14.D. Public comments\*\* – In accordance with LA R.S. 42.14.D., the LSBEP shall allow public comments at any point during a meeting of the LSBEP, prior to action on an agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken. Individuals who wish to comment on a matter must sign in and state their intent to comment on a matter.

La. R.S. 44:33.1 - In compliance with La. R.S. 44:33.1, the LSBEP hereby gives notice that information submitted to the LSBEP may become public record pursuant to the provisions of Louisiana Public Records Law, La. R.S. 44:1, *et seq.*