



MARYLAND  
Department of Health

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MARYLAND BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

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**State of Maryland**  
**Board of Social Work Examiners**  
**Open Session Meeting**  
**4201 Patterson Ave, Baltimore 21215**  
**MINUTES**  
**October 11, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Open Session was called to Order at 10:42 a.m.

**ADJUSTMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Jamie Wilson made no adjustments to the Agenda

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board:** Susan Coppage, Chair; Adrienne K. Ekas, Vice Chair; Leslie Iampieri, Board Secretary, Jamie Wilson, Board Member; Kevin Meenan, Board Member; Tonya Hill, Board Member; Shannon Webb, Board Member; and Barbara Tunstall, Board Member  
Carla Paisely, Board Member (absent), Vernon Smith, Consumer Member (absent) and Kori Olszewski, Board member (absent)

**Board Staff:** Stacy Darwin, Board Counsel; Kara Brooks Tyson, Director of Compliance; Stacie Rigby, Continuing Education Associate; Marianne Graham, Social Work Supervisor; Lillian Reese, Legislative and Regulations Coordinator; Ulysses Preston, Health Investigations Administrator; Kellie Peay, Administrative Asst.; Pamela Price-Murray, Licensing Coordinator; Lee Nguyen, Database Specialist II; Glendia Cook, Licensing Coordinator; and Brenda McCoy, Staff Social Worker  
Karen Richards, Executive Director (absent), Gloria Hammel, Director Certification and Licensing (absent) and Gail Wowk, Director, Planning and Continuing Education (absent)

**Additional Staff:** Zakiyyah Holmes, Administrator, Health Boards & Commissions

**Community:** Heather Gardner, LCSW-C, Garnering Change Psychotherapy, LLC; Meghan Co; Barkett Cisney, Elisabet Martinez, Jessica Hobgood, Joyce Scott, Tawana Lee, Trent Tabor, Terri Collins,

## **BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

**Susan Coppage, Chair**

- Susan Coppage welcomed members of the public, staff, and Board members.
- The newsletter for the Board was sent out via email. The Executive Team confirmed that about 50% of the emails were opened on the first day. By the second day, there were approximately 400 clicks on the Social Work Compact link within the newsletter. We look forward to producing monthly newsletters, or at least bi-monthly ones, to share important information with our licensees.
  - As a result of the newsletter, we received over 30 inquiries regarding Supervision and Ethics Tutorial Services for licenses under probation with the Board. The Conference for ASWB Delegate Assembly - November 8-9 in San Diego, Susan and Adrienne will be attending
  - Two Resolutions that need a vote; Susan will update the Board after the vote.
  - One is around having the ASWB Board Chair serve only one term.
  - **Social Work Compact** - Health Resource Service Administration had 2.5 million dollars that went out and ASWB received one of those grants. That money will help with the establishment of the social work compact.
- Kara Tyson gave an update regarding the construction work at the Board.
  - The Board is hoping to add 2 additional cubicles for the new staff members (two new Board Investigators)
  - Susan Coppage and Adrienne Ekas will be attending the ASWB Annual Meeting during the first week of November 2024.
  - Shannon Webb attended the new members training in Washington D.C. and she stated that the training was educational and informative. The conference was led by an ASWB attorney.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

**Kara Tyson, Director  
Compliance and Investigations**

- Karen Richards was absent but Kara Tyson gave an update regarding the hiring of additional Board Investigators.
- Building Update- two additional cubicles will be built to accommodate the new staff-board Investigators.

## **Licensing Unit Update Supervisor**

**Marianne Graham, Social Work**

- **Licensing Renewal Update**
  - LBSW- 74 renewals

- LCSW- 49 renewals
- LMSW-1151 renewals
- LCSW-C 2453 renewals
- **Update regarding License Applications**
  - Marianne stated that the Licensing Unit has been able to catch up with the backlog of Applications. She also thanked her staff for their hard work and dedication.

Overview of the fingerprint process.

### **CHRC Questions**

All health occupations in Maryland are required to undergo a criminal history record check due to the implementation of the Next Generation Identification (NGI) Rap Back Service. This service enables authorized government agencies to receive notifications about any subsequent criminal activity involving individuals who hold positions of trust or who are under criminal justice supervision or investigation.

Please note that you cannot use a previous criminal history record check completed for another agency for the Board. Maryland state law mandates that fingerprints must be taken for each requested background check.

The good news is that if you choose to enroll in the Rap Back service, you will not need to undergo another criminal history record check for your social work license. By enrolling, you will authorize the Maryland Criminal Justice Information System to inform the Board of any future developments.

I hope this clarifies the situation. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact m

### **CHRC Steps**

If you live or work in Maryland, then please follow these steps:

1. Print the Live Scan form at the following link: [chrc\\_instructions\\_v2.pdf \(maryland.gov\)](#).
2. Fill in the Applicant Information section.
3. Take the form to an agency or private provider listed with the Maryland Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS).
4. For more information and a list of agencies that can provide fingerprinting services, go to the following link: [DPSCS - Fingerprint Services \(state.md.us\)](#).

If you do not live or work in Maryland, then please follow these steps:

1. Request a fingerprint card by sending your mailing address to [mdh.socialwork@maryland.gov](mailto:mdh.socialwork@maryland.gov).
2. Contact a local police department or other law enforcement agency to see if they provide ink-and-roll fingerprinting and ask if they will complete the Maryland fingerprint card.
3. Mail the card to the Maryland Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) in the envelope provided.

CJIS will send the results to the Board by secure electronic email.

I hope this is helpful. Please contact me if you have other questions.

## Committee Reports

### Statutes and Regulations Committee

Kevin Meenan, Committee Member

- Kevin stated that the Committee met on Thursday, October 10, 2024
  - The goal will be to discuss Independent Practice and Non-Independent Clinical Practice more specifically “definitions” regarding the differences between Independent Practice.

### Continuing Education Committee

Adrienne Ekas, Committee Chair

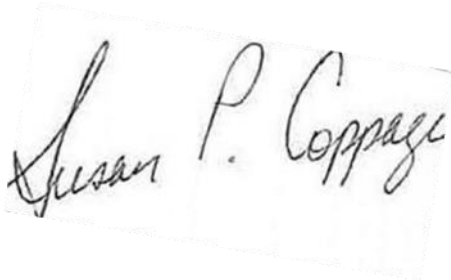
- No update at this time.

### Questions Or Comments

- Elisabeth Martinez wanted clarification regarding Anti-Oppressive Training from November 1 to Dec 23, 2024

Marianne Graham requested for Elisabeth Martinez to contact her directly.

**The Open Session was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.**



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Susan Coppage, LCSW-C  
Board Chair



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Karen Richards, LCSW-C  
Executive Director, BSWE