September 2019 Newsletter

Board Members:

Valeri White, LBSW Chair District 3

LaShea Cobb-England, LICSW Vice-Chair District 7

Amy E. Smith, LMSW Secretary District 4

Sharrie Cranford, LMSW District 1

Kai Mumpfield, LICSW District 2

Dr. Octavio Ramirez, LICSW District 5

Marilyn Latham Colson, LICSW District 6

Upcoming State Holiday's

December 24th & 25th January 1st

Please note that the Board Office will be closed on the days posted above.



Alabama State Board of Social Work Examiners 334-242-5860 or 1-888-879-3672



View from the Chair

By: Valeri White, LBSW

As we enter the holiday season and reflect on this year, it is always humbling to realize the impact, we, as social workers, have on our communities and the clients we serve. The hours spent documenting, the miles driven to see our clients, the hours of phone calls to set up services are the unseen tasks that make social workers super heroes. We, as the Board, appreciate the work you do!

As we prepare for the coming New Year, the Board is working hard to strengthen the supervision piece in our Code to ensure, as regulators, that social workers understand the importance of supervision and obtaining solid supervision within your scope of practice. We also want to ensure that social workers are practicing within their scope of practice, so we will be defining those more clearly. We feel that these upcoming updates will ensure consistency as members rotate on and off the Board.

Please rely on the staff at the office or your Board representative when you have questions pertaining to your license, supervision, or your practice.

Wishing you a safe and healthy holiday season!

New Rule Changes Effective January 13, 2020

850-X-7-.03 Renewal of Expired License. The Board may renew an expired license upon the payment of the renewal fees due for each lapsed renewal cycle, the payment of the current license renewal fee, and proof of thirty (15) hours of continuing education if reactivated within the first year of expiration; should the license be expired longer than one year but less than five an additional requirement of fifteen (15) continuing education hours will be required per year with the maximum being ninety (90) continuing education hours.

Upcoming Board Openings

The Board has one Member position open immediately. The position is for US Congressional District 1. The position will need to be filled by a Licensed Master Social Worker in current and good standing. If you are a licensed social worker at that level of licensure from this District and are interested in serving on the Board you may start collecting letters of nomination from fellow social workers from your District. The Governor makes the final selection from the list of the persons with the most nominations for the District.

If this is not something you're interested in, you may wish to submit a letter on behalf of someone. We'll accept nomination letters through January 31, 2020. We then submit the top three names for the District who receive the most letters to the Governor. The Governor makes the final decision and appoints the Board Member for that district.

The duties of the Board are:

- To protect the public from incompetent, unethical and unlawful social work practice.
- To enforce qualification standards for all levels of licensure and certification.
- To delineate unlawful conduct through disciplinary procedures against practitioners who violate applicable laws or rules.

Nomination Requirements:

- The person being nominated and the person doing the nominating **must** both live in the same District.
- You can nominate yourself.
- The person making the nomination must be a licensed social worker.
- Nomination letters must be mailed, or hand delivered, you may collect the letters and send them in all together faxed or emailed letters **are not** acceptable.

The Board appointment will be for the **remaining two years** of the previous members appointment running through September 30, 2021. There is no pay for serving under this

capacity, but you are reimbursed for in-state and out-of-state travel expenses at the same rate as a

state employee. Find your district in the map below.



NASW SOCIAL WORK TALKS PODCASTS

Follow this <u>link</u> to Inform, Educate & Inspire. NASW Social Work Talks podcast gives us an opportunity to explore topics that social workers care about and to hear from social work experts and practitioners.

ABSWE

Board of Social Work Examiners

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Board Staff

Rachel Dickinson Executive Director

Karen Hester Examination Specialist

Cassandra Burrell Registration Coordinator

Board Reminders

• CE requirements – you must have 3 CE's in the following – Ethics, Clinical and Supervision (if you are under contract to supervise). Please remember that you need 10 traditional classroom-based CE hours as part of your 30 CE total.

• You can no longer earn your Ethics, Clinical and/or Supervision CE's during your grace period! You must earn them before your license expires!

• The Board will meet again January 27, 2020 at 9:30am in our Montgomery office.